

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

**Please revise the Abstract of the Disclosure as follows:**

A mediation method and a mediation system divided into independent node components that process event records independently of the other components of the system. In addition, the system is provided with at least one node manager component that configures the node components and starts them up, when required. Further, the node manager component monitors the functioning of the node components and also stops the node components, if required. Each of the independent node components operates according to its own settings and is thus self-contained and capable of continuing operation even though some of the other components are temporarily inoperative. The system ~~comprises~~—also includes a system database that manages configuration information and stores audit trail data.

(FIG 8)